



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

August 23, 2005

News Release

NIGERIAN MAN SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS FOR IMPORTING COUNTERFEIT U.S. TREASURY CHECKS *Unlawfully imported checks totaling \$541,000*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A Nigerian man was sentenced today to 30 months in prison for unlawfully importing counterfeit U.S. Treasury checks into the United States, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Adewale Adeyemi Adeboyejo, 45, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court by the Honorable Robert Holmes Bell, after pleading guilty in May in violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 545.

The ICE investigation began after a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspector in Cincinnati, Ohio, examined an international package sent from Nigeria and intended for Adeboyejo in Kalamazoo, Mich. ICE and Secret Service agents conducted a controlled delivery of a package containing 10 checks totaling \$541,000. Adeboyejo was arrested upon receipt of the package.

“This case is an excellent example of ICE’s broad authority to enforce both Customs and Immigration laws of the United States,” said Brian M. Moskowitz, special agent-in-charge of the ICE Detroit Office of Investigations. “Not only were we able to investigate international smuggling of counterfeit U.S. Treasury checks that led to today’s sentence, but ICE will also be there upon Mr. Adeboyejo’s release from prison for his removal from the United States.”

While handing down the sentence to Adeboyejo, Judge Bell expressed his concern over the increasing number of frauds perpetuated by individuals from Nigeria and imposed the sentence of 30 months with the desire that others would be deterred from committing similar criminal schemes.

The U.S. Secret Service provided investigative assistance. Daniel Y. Mekaru, U.S. Attorney’s Office, Western District of Michigan prosecuted this case.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.